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BY THE

# POLYGRAPHIC SOCIETY,

At their ROOMS, in PALL-MALL,

BEING THEIR EIGHTH EXHIBITION:

OPENED the 4th of APRIL, 1792,

As SPECIMENS of what the SOCIETY engage to deliver to Purchasers.

☞ Admittance ONE SHILLING.

*TO CONTINUE TILL FURTHER NOTICE,*

FROM ELEVEN IN THE MORNING TILL SIX IN THE EVENING.

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*** *All* ORDERS *addreſſed by Letter to the* Polygraphic Society, *as above, will be executed in the ſame Manner as if the Parties were preſent.*

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The Polygraphic Pictures thus ſubſcribed for, will be delivered (in a handſome gilt Frame) in Rotation as the Orders are received, agreeably to the Specimens, at the Price mentioned in their Catalogues, charging the Porterage; and, when required, will be packed with the utmoſt Care for any Part of the Kingdom or abroad, adding the Price of the Packing-Caſe, &c.

On Account of the low Price the Society have ſet on their Pictures, and their not requiring any Part of the Money to be paid previous to the Delivery, as is in general cuſtomary in other Subſcriptions, they hope that thoſe who honour them with their Orders, as above mentioned, will not be offended when informed, that the Society deal for ready Money only.—Therefore, as it will ſometimes happen, that it will not be in their Power to have the whole Liſt of Subjects, which may be ordered or ſubſcribed for, ready to be delivered at once; they requeſt to be underſtood, that they mean to deliver the Subjects as they are finiſhed, with which will be ſent a Bill and Receipt, to prevent the Inconvenience of any open Accounts.

The Polygraphic Society preſume that the ſaid Productions are alſo well calculated for the Eaſt or Weſt Indies, or any other Part of the Globe: Such Merchants and Captains of Ships, &c. who chuſe to ſpeculate therein, and will take to the Amount of 50l. and upwards, may make their Payments in good Bills on reſpectable Houſes in Town, at any reaſonable Date, allowing the Diſcount.

☞ All Orders by Letter, addreſſed to the Polygraphic Society, Pall-Mall, London, will likewiſe be duly executed in Rotation as ſuch Orders are received.—Letters for Information, &c. will be duly anſwered.

*** Catalogues, containing the different Subjects for Sale, their Dimenſions, and Prices, to be had at the Polygraphic Rooms.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE

THE

# POLYGRAPHIC SOCIETY

TO THE

## PATRONS and ADMIRERS

OF

## *THE POLITE ARTS.*

THE Novelty of the Polygraphic Invention, renders it neceſſary to inform thoſe ſtill unacquainted therewith, that it is a new Art for Multiplying or taking Pictures from the Originals in *Oil Colours*, by a Chymical and Mechanical Proceſs.

This Art was, after many Years Labour and Expence, diſcovered by JOSEPH BOOTH, Portrait Painter; and Specimens of his Diſcovery (though attended with many Diſadvantages, and in an imperfect State) were offered to the Public a few Years ſince under the Name of *Polyplaſiaſmos*.

But perſuaded that bringing this Diſcovery to the Perfection he was ambitious of, would be too great an Undertaking to encounter alone, he communicated his Wiſhes to a few Gentlemen of Reſpectability, who being convinced that an Invention of ſo great Merit, if properly countenanced, would become an Object of national Advantage, and do Honour to our Age and Country, by producing more accurate Pictures than has heretofore been done at ſo low a Price, from the Works of ſome of the oldeſt Maſters, as well as of the moſt eminent of our Britiſh Painters, and diffuſing them in different Parts of the Globe, united themſelves for its Support, under the Title of

## The POLYGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

In order that an impartial Judgment may be formed of the Merit of this Diſcovery, particularly by thoſe inclined to purchaſe, the Gentlemen united to promote it under the above *Firm*, have reſolved to ſubmit to the World a Number of Specimens from capital Paintings of old and modern Maſters, by making a Public Exhibition at their Rooms in London, once or twice every Year, where the Originals with the Polygraphic Pictures produced from them, will be preſented together; not with the Preſumption,

that

that they cannot be diſtinguiſhed one from the other, on a ſtrict Examination by a Connoiſſeur, but to convince the Patrons of the fine Arts, how nearly theſe Productions approach the Originals; and of courſe what Degree of Merit they poſſeſs by the Cloſeneſs of the Imitation.

When the Public are fully convinced of the Merit of this Undertaking, and find theſe Copies, *notwithſtanding the Diſproportion of Price*, are ſcarcely *diſtinguiſhable* from the Originals—the Society flatter themſelves, that the Lovers of the Polite Arts, both at Home and Abroad, will generally adopt the Style of ornamenting ſome of their beſt Rooms with the Polygraphic Pictures, which in their preſent highly-improved State, are worthy of a Place amongſt the moſt capital Collections; and are warranted to be in every Reſpect equal in Durability to other Oil Paintings on Canvas. They therefore hope, that the Polygraphic Art will tend greatly to aſſiſt in diffuſing a Taſte for Painting, where it would otherwiſe never have prevailed; and that the Artiſts themſelves, even of the firſt Eminence, will conſiderably profit thereby. This Society, beſides the Productions of the old Maſters, mean continually to have a Choice of new Subjects, worthy the attention of the Public, painted by Artiſts of Merit reſiding in our own Country, of which a certain Number (of each) will be multiplied by Means of the POLYGRAHPIC ART; from which they have no Doubt that this valuable Diſcovery will be conſidered by the candid World as great an Encouragement to Original Paintings as the ingenious art of Engraving.

The Society are frequently indulged with the Loan of capital original Pictures to multiply, from Gentlemen's Collections; the value of which are naturally encreaſed in proportion as the Polygraphics make them more known to the World.

Some admirers of the polite Arts having expreſſed their Apprehenſions that too great a Number of each Subject might be executed; ſo that by making the ſaid Copies too common in this Kingdom, their Value would be diminiſhed; to obviate ſuch Objection, the Society take the Opportunity to obſerve, that they have reſolved to limit the Number of each Subject; ſo, that at the utmoſt, were they equally diſtributed, there would not be more than one of any Subject in each County.

# A Catalogue, &c.

N. B. *This Mark* (*) *denotes, that the Subjects are nearly diſpoſed of, and that the Society mean not to take off any more.*

| N° | Outſide Meaſure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Maſter | | Price of Pictures, including Frames |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 41 by 32¾ | *Wright* of *Derby* | A BOY blowing a Bladder by candlelight.—Mr. Wright ſtands unrivalled in ſubjects of this kind. The lady who favoured the Society with the loan of this picture, having removed to a diſtant part of the kingdom, they are deprived of the ſatisfaction of ſhewing, by a cloſe compariſon, how very near the Polygraphic copies reſemble the original —— | 6 16 6 |
| 2 | 41 by 32¾ | *Opie* | The BLIND BEGGAR and his daughter.—The head of the old man in this picture, is admired by connoiſſeurs as one of the happieſt productions of Mr. Opie's pencil, and to which the juvenile beauty of the girl, makes a moſt pleaſing contraſt — —— | 7 17 6 |
| 3 | 48 by 61 | *Claude Lorraine* | * A SEA PORT, with Architecture, Landſcape and Figures; from an original picture by *Claude Lorraine*, valued at one hundred guineas, painted with all the warmth for which that great maſter is ſo juſtly celebrated —— | 10 10 0 |
| 4 | 33 by 38 | *Van Os* | A freſh GALE at SEA, with Shipping } the pair | 10 10 0 |
| 5 | ditto | Ditto | A CALM — —— } | |

The two foregoing Subjects are in the Collection of Captain Baker, who has been pleaſed to lend them to the Society. They are finiſhed with a particular Correctneſs, which is well preſerved in the Polygraphics.

☞ Thoſe who give their Orders from the Catalogue, are requeſted to ſpecify the Subjects; as *the Numbers* vary in different Catalogues.

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Picture, including Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 27 by 34 | *Wright* of *Derby* | * A View of MOUNT VESUVIUS by *Moonlight.* This beautiful and much-admired picture the Society have been favoured with the use of, from the collection of John Arnold, Esq.— a Companion to No. 22. (only a few remaining) | 4 14 6 |
| 7 | 23 by 31 | *Vandervelde* | SHIPS in a SQUALL. By the younger *Vandervelde.*—This picture was in the collection, and much valued by the late Mr. Gainsborough, and for elegance of design and correctness of finishing, certainly possesses such a degree of perfection as is not to be discerned in the productions of any other artist in that style of painting. In the imitation of these excellencies the Society beg to submit their copies to a candid comparison with the original, which is valued at £40. —— —— | 5 5 0 |
| 8 | 13½ by 16 | *Schweickhardt* | * LANDSCAPE, with a Horse, by *Schweickhardt,* finished with that peculiar correctness and delicacy for which this master is so greatly admired, (only 5 remaining) —— | 2 12 6 |
| 9 | 14 by 16 | *De Glymn* | * A LANDSCAPE, (a Calm at Land) a very pleasing little composition executed with great spirit and delicacy | 4 14 6 |
| 10 | ditto | Ditto | Ditto, (a Storm) a companion The pair, in spandle* frames (only 2 pair remaining) —— — | |
| 11 | 33½ by 27½ | Mad. *Le Doux* | LA PETITE JARDINIERE. A French gardener's daughter, with a basket of herbs and flowers —— —— | 6 6 0 |

* *Spandle* is an Oval or Circle within the Frame.

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Pictures, including Frames |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | 33½ by 27½ | Mad. *Le Doux* | L'OISEAU CHERI. A Girl cheriſhing a ſick *Canary-bird*. A companion to the foregoing. There is an air of amiable intereſting ſimplicity in theſe beautiful figures, truly captivating! | 7 7 0 |
| | | | Theſe Pictures are in the manner, and allowed to be equal to the works of *Gruſe*. | |
| 13 | 33¼ by 26½ | *Bourgeois* | A SHEPHERD's BOY. | |
| 14 | ditto | Ditto | The MARKET GIRL, companion to the foregoing —— } the pair | 10 10 0 |
| | | | There is a characteriſtic ſimplicity and beauty in theſe two figures, which make them particularly intereſting. The colouring is clear and maſterly, and the general effect of the whole, ſingularly elegant. | |
| 15 | 30 by 24 | *Rubens* | DESCENT from the CROSS.—This is a ſmall copy of the famous altar-piece, by *Rubens*, in the great church at Antwerp. It is certainly moſt exquiſitely painted, and conveys a perfect idea of the ſublimity and grandeur of the original, which is univerſally allowed to be one of the fineſt pictures in the world. The Society are obliged to —— Bryan, Eſq. for the loan of this picture —— —— | 10 10 |
| 16 | 36½ by 31½ | *Coſway*, R. A. | A Portrait of the PRINCE of WALES.—His Royal Highneſs moſt graciouſly condeſcended to ſit to Mr. Coſway for this portrait, expreſsly for the uſe of the Polygraphic Society. It has been pronounced by judges to be the very beſt likeneſs of the Prince which has yet been taken, in a frame, with ſpandle and plume (worth 4l. 4s.) — — | 10 10 0 |
| | | | With ſpandle, but no plume —— | 7 17 6 |

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Picture, including Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | 36 by 54½ | *Teniers* | A beautiful LANDSCAPE with Fiſhermen; from the collection of Tho. Moore Slade, Eſq. —The freedom and ſpirit of this great maſter's pencil are in this picture moſt admirably diſplayed—the touching of the trees is light and firm—the ſky clear—the expreſſion of the figures ſtrongly marked, ſtriking and natural — | 8 8 0 |
| 18 | 22¼ by 19¼ | *Greuſe* | A FEMALE HEAD, No. 1 } the pair | 6 6 0 |
| 19 | ditto | Ditto | Ditto, companion, No. 2 } | |
| | | | The works of this maſter are ſo juſtly admired in Paris, that heads of this ſize by him, are frequently ſold there for 30 or 40 guineas each. | |
| 20 | 48 by 61 | *Claude* | View of a SEA-PORT, with Shipping Architecture, &c. This ſuperlatively beautiful picture coſt the Society 400 guineas, and is eſteemed one of the happieſt performances of that great maſter. The warmth and luſtre of the ſky is admirable. The diſtances are touched with inimitable tenderneſs, and every object is ſo juſtly illumined as to give the moſt delightful union and harmony to the whole work. In the multiplying of this exquiſite picture, the Polygraphic Art has been ſucceſsfully exerted; and the Society truſt when their copies ſhall have been a little mellowed by time, that they will poſſeſs a perfect air of originality —— | 21 0 0 |
| 21 | 28 by 23½ | *Beechy* | LAVINIA and her Mother (ſee Thompſon's Seaſons). This picture is perfectly expreſſive of all the humble virtues ſo intereſtingly delineated by the poet ——— — | 3 13 6 |

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Pictures, including Frames |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | 27 by 34 | *Wright* of *Derby* | A LANDSCAPE in Italy, by *Moonlight*. The effect of the beams reflected by the water is admirably represented, and forms a most pleasing contrast with the neighbouring shades, which, in the words of poet, "*Seem most for Love and Contemplation made.*" A companion to No. 6. —— — | 4 14 6 |
| 23 | 35½ by 30 | *Rising* | Portrait of the Right Hon. W. PITT. The Polygraphic Society are flattered by their friends, that this portrait is one of the most correct likenesses ever taken of Mr. Pitt, and that the Polygraphics bear a very strong resemblance to the original picture — — | 6 6 0 |
| 24 | 20½ by 24 | *La Cave* | * View of CROMFORD CRAGGS near *Matlock*, Derbyshire | the pair 5 5 0 |
| 25 | ditto | Ditto | * A View near MATLOCK, a companion to the foregoing —— | |
| 26 | 22¾ by 25½ | Ditto | * View in IRELAND | the pair 7 7 0 |
| 27 | ditto | Ditto | Ditto, in RICHMOND PARK | |
| 28 | 20¼ by 17¼ | *Dabos* | A French WOMAN-COOK in her kitchen | 2 12 6 |
| 29 | ditto | Ditto | COMTE LOGES in the BASTILLE. This unfortunate nobleman was confined upwards of thirty years in that castle of despotism, and liberated on its destruction. This picture exhibits a faithful likeness of the count, and of the place of the his confinement. -- | 2 12 6 |
| 30 | 35½ by 30 | Sir *J. Reynolds* | Portrait of the Right Hon. C. J. FOX. This portrait is universally allowed to be a very striking likeness; and was painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds expressly for the Polygraphic Society | 6 6 0 |

| No | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Pictures, including Frames | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | 57 by 47 | *Northcote* | * The FLOWER GIRL, from a Picture painted expresly for the Society, exhibits a lively representation of youth and beauty.—*Simplex Munditiis.* —— — | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| 32 | 34 by 42 | *Moreland* | * A WINTER-PIECE, with Figures, and Skaiting —— —— | 5 | 15 | 6 |
| 33 | 17½ by 20½ | *Pether* | A LANDSCAPE, by Moonlight. This beautiful little picture is most elegantly composed and correctly finished, and shews an accurate observation of nature. A Companion to No. 56 - - - - | | 14 | 6 |
| 34 | 21 by 18 | *Bourgeois* | LANDSCAPE and Cattle } in oval frames, | | | |
| 35 | ditto | Ditto | Ditto, companion } the pair - | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| 36 | 29 by 37 | *Wright* of *Derby* | MÆCENAS' VILLA, at Tivoli. The beauties of an Italian landscape are in this picture admirably depicted, and the spectator is at a loss which most to admire—the warmth and brilliancy of the sky, the transparency of the water, or the elegant and varied tints of the surrounding foliage. The original is worth 40l. | 7 | 7 | 0 |
| 37 | 36 by 47 | *Vernet* | A LANDSCAPE with Figures and a View of the Sea; from an original, by *Vernet*. This is a beautiful morning scene, in the very best manner of this eminent master; and has been pronounced by connoisseurs to be a picture which might, in point of excellence, almost bid defiance to criticism. The Polygraphic Society received great credit for their copies when they were exhibited with the original picture, which has since been disposed of, and is now justly valued at 200 guineas — — | 14 | 14 | 0 |

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Picture, including Frame |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 38 | 34½ by 29 | Sir *J. Reynolds* | The LAUGHING GIRL. It is unneceſſary to point out the particular excellencies of this beautiful head: it is ſufficient to obſerve, that it has been pronounced a *chef d'œuvre* of ſcience and execution. The Society are flattered by their friends, that their copies are a very cloſe imitation of the peculiar manner of the original, which is valued at 100 guineas | 7 7 0 |
| 39 | 37 by 28 | *Hamilton* | * Mrs. SIDDONS in the character of Lady *Macbeth*, in that Scene of the Firſt Act, where after reading the THANE's Letter, ſhe exclaims<br>" ——— *and ſhalt be*<br>" *What thou art promiſed!*"<br>A ſtriking likeneſs of that great actreſs. The Polygraphics bear ſuch a ſpirited reſemblance, that ſeveral of them ſeen ſingly, have been taken for original Paintings, and that even by Artiſts, (only 3 remaining) —— | 4 4 0 |
| 40 | 27 by 34 | *Loutherbourg* | The MORNING. From an exquiſitely high-finiſhed landſcape, in the beſt ſtyle of this maſter. The original worth 60l. (only a few remaining) | 6 6 0 |
| 41 | 30 by 30 | *A. Kauffman* | * CUPID bound by the GRACES. In a *ſpandle* frame — — | 6 6 0 |
| 42 | 33½ by 28½ | *Vernet* | BANDITTI. This picture is a moſt correct imitation of the grand Style of *Salvator Roſa*. It is allowed by judges that in the copies of this ſubject, the ſpirited touches of the original are wonderfully preſerved —— | 3 13 6 |

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Pictures, including Frames |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | 33½ by 29 | *Opie* | Portrait of the EARL of SANDWICH, from an original picture, by Mr. Opie. The copies are acknowledged to bear the ſtrongeſt reſemblance, and to preſerve all the ſpirit and bold manner of that juſtly-celebrated artiſt | 3 13 6 |
| 44 | 24 by 30 | *Ibbetſon* and *Rathbone* | * A LANDSCAPE, with a Lime-Kiln, Figures, &c. A pleaſing ſpirited little picture, in the ſtyle of *De Loutherbourg* —— | 3 13 6 |

Frequent Applications having been made to the Polygraphic Society, for ſmall Copies of ſome of their larger Pictures by Perſons who were pleaſed with the Subjects, but had not neceſſary Room for placing Pictures of large Dimenſions; the Society anxious to pay every Attention to the Wiſhes of their Friends, have procured reduced Copies to be made of ſome of their large Pictures, beſt adapted to the Purpoſe, by Artiſts of Repute, and from which Copies have been taken, *viz.*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45 | 27 by 34 | *Reinagle* | LAKE of NEMI, from the original, by Reinagle, painted with all the warmth of Claude Lorraine — — — | 5 5 0 |
| 46 | ditto | *Claude Lorraine* | A LANDSCAPE, from the original, (No. 3 in this catalogue) — — | 5 5 0 |
| 47 | 34 by 27 | *Northcote* | The FRUIT GIRL, from the original, by Northcote — — — | 6 6 0 |
| 48 | ditto | Ditto | The FLOWER GIRL, do. (No. 31 in this Catalogue) —— —— | 6 6 0 |
| 49 | ditto | Ditto. | HOBNELIA.—From Gay's Paſtorals<br>" Laſt May-day fair I ſearch'd to find a ſnail,<br>" That might my ſecret lover's name reveal." &c. | 6 6 0 |

# ADDITIONAL NEW SUBJECTS.

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Pictures, including Frames |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | 31 by 35½ | *Hondius* | A DOG and HARE.—This Picture is not inferior to the beſt works of Snyder, either in drawing or colouring —— | 6 6 0 |
| 51 | 28½ by 24½ | *Weenix* | A HEN and Pole-Cats —— | 5 5 0 |
| 52 | 40 by 49½ | *Bourgeois* | A View in HAMPSHIRE, viz. a Landſcape with Cattle. There is a taſte and elegance in the works of Sir Francis, which demand the admiration of the Connoiſſeur, and make them at the ſame time peculiarly adapted for the purpoſe of adorning the moſt elegant apartments —— —— | 12 12 0 |
| 53 | 40 by 49¼ | *Pether* | A SUN-SET, Landſcape, Figures and Cattle.---A companion to the foregoing. The works of this artiſt are juſtly riſing in the higheſt eſtimation. The compoſition and colouring of this beautiful picture, would not have diſgraced the pencil of Claude — | 14 14 0 |
| 54 | 22¾ by 25½ | *Wheatley* | A pleaſing LANDSCAPE, with Figures and Cattle. —— | 4 4 0 |

| N° | Outside Measure of Picture and Frame Height & Length | From what Master | | Price of Picture, including Frame. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | 31 by 26½ | *Corregio* | ST. CATHERINE reading. This picture is a copy by Guercino, from a *chef d'œuvre* by Corregio, in the Pallazzo Pitti, at Florence, and was obligingly lent to the Society, by a diſtinguiſhed amateur —— | 6 16 6 |
| 56 | 17½ by 20¼ | *Pether* | A COTTAGE on FIRE. A ſpirited compoſition! perfectly deſcriptive of the calamity it repreſents.—A companion to No. 33 — | 4 14 6 |
| 57 | 31 by 35½ | *Stubbs* | FIGHTING HORSES —— | 5 15 6 |
| 58 | 29½ by 31½ | Ditto | LIONESS and frightened Horſe — | 5 5 0 |
| 59 | Ditto | Ditto | The TYGRESS —— | 5 5 0 |
| | | | This maſter's excellence is ſo well known, that encomiums on his performances are unneceſſary. | |
| 60 | 47 by 47¼ | *A. Kauffman* | The Departure of TELEMACHUS.—*Angelica* has evidently exerted her utmoſt abilities upon this beautiful picture, and with a ſucceſs which is truly admirable. The ſcience and beauty diſplayed in the compoſition are ſcarcely to be excelled. The two greyhounds are a happy effort of Mr. Gilpin's pencil — | 21 0 0 |

☞ From the nature of the Society's dealings and connections they are frequently in poſſeſſion of ſome capital Original Pictures, which are to be diſpoſed of.—Particulars may be known from the perſon who ſhews the rooms.

BRITISH MUSEUM